Appl. No. : 10/656,721 Filed : September 5, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Canceled)
- (Original) A subgenomic replicon of dengue virus origin comprising a deletion for the sequence coding for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔΜΕ).
 - 3.-7. (Canceled)
- (Original) A subgenomic replicon of dengue virus type 2 origin comprising a deletion for the sequence coding for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔΜΕ).
 - 9.-16. (Canceled)
- 17. (Currently Amended) A subgenomic replicon of dengue virus origin comprising a deletion for the sequence coding for C, PreM, and E structural proteins (ΔCME), or for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔME), or for E-structural-protein (ΔE), which is adapted to receive at least a nucleotide sequence without disrupting its replication canabilities.
- 18. (Currently Amended) A vaccine comprising a subgenomic replicon of dengue virus origin which comprises a deletion for the sequence coding for C, PreM, and E structural proteins (ΔCME), or for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔME), or-for-E-structural-protein-(ΔE), optionally which is adapted to receive at least a nucleotide sequence without disrupting its replication capabilities, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 19. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic comprising a subgenomic replicon of dengue virus origin which comprises a deletion for the sequence coding for C, PreM, and E structural proteins (ΔCME), or for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔME), or for E structural protein (ΔE), optionally which is adapted to receive at least a nucleotide sequence without disrupting its replication capabilities, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A dengue virus like particle comprising a subgenomic replicon of dengue virus origin which comprises a deletion for the sequence coding for C, PreM, and E structural proteins (ΔCME), or for PreM and E structural proteins (ΔE), optionally which is adapted to receive at least a nucleotide sequence without disrupting its replication capabilities, and each of the structural proteins of the homologous dengue virus wherein said structural proteins eneapsulate said subgenomic replicon.
 - 21. 24.(Canceled)

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25. (New) A replicon of dengue virus origin comprising a deletion in a polynucleotide encoding a PreM structural protein and a deletion in a polynucleotide encoding an E structural protein.

- 26. (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein the dengue virus is a dengue type 1 virus.
- (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein the dengue virus is a dengue type 2 virus.
- 28. (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein the dengue virus is a dengue type 3 virus.
- (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein the dengue virus is a dengue type 4 virus.
- (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein the virus comprises a deletion in a polynucleotide encoding a C structural protein.
- 31. (New) The replicon of Claim 30, comprising a deletion of the entire polynucleotide encoding the C structural protein.
- 32. (New) The replicon of Claim 25, comprising a deletion of the entire polynucleotide encoding the PreM structural protein.
- 33. (New) The replicon of Claim 25, comprising a deletion of the entire polynucleotide encoding the E structural protein.
- (New) The replicon of Claim 25, wherein said replicon comprises a heterologous polynucleotide.
- 35. (New) The replicon of Claim 34, wherein said heterologous polynucleotide encodes an HIV protein.
 - 36. (New) A vaccine comprising the replicon of Claim 25.